

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 074658
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00
L-03 /046 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:GGGRIFFITHS:LR
APPROVED BY EB/OA:MHSTYLES
EB/OA/AVP:AJWHITE
EUR/WE:EBEIGEL
ARA/CAR:FTUMMINIA
-----098074 230700Z /13

P 230034Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 074658

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: EASTERN AIRLINES FARES PROBLEM WITH
FRENCH ANTILLES

1. EASTERN AIRLINES HAS SENT DEPARTMENT COPY OF
MARCH 6 LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL
AVIATION FOR THE ANTILLES AND GUYANA RE EASTERN'S
299 DOLLARS UNLIMITED MILEAGE FARE. TEXT OF LETTER
FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

AN INQUIRY INTO AIR TRANSPORT SHOWS THAT A LARGE NUMBER
OF PASSENGERS ON EASTERN'S FLIGHTS HAVE, UPON ARRIVAL
OR DEPARTURE OF THE FRENCH ANTILLES, A TRANSPORTATION
TICKET WITH AN EXCURSION TARIFF OF 299 DOLLARS,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 074658

UNLIMITED MILEAGE.

MAY I CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT BY
LETTER 3597 SEI/I2 OF 13 SEPTEMBER 1977 SENT TO THE

DIRECTOR OF EASTERN BY FRANCE, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
CIVIL AVIATION HAS REFUSED THE APPLICATION OF SUCH

TARIFF INsofar AS THE FRENCH ANTILLES.

THE 299 DOLLAR TARIFF APPLICATION CONSTITUTES AN
INFRACTION OF ARTICLE R.330-9 OF BOOK III OF THE
CIVIL AVIATION CODE.

THEREFORE, I ASK YOU TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE ALL SALE
OF THE 299 DOLLAR TARIFF WHEN THE FRENCH ANTILLES
ARE A DEPARTURE OR DESTINATION POINT.

FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THIS VERBAL WARNING WILL RESULT
IN A FINE.

I ASK YOU TO PLEASE COMMUNICATE OUR POSITION TO THE
DIRECTOR OF EASTERN.

HOPING YOU WILL AGREE, SIR, I REMAIN. END TEXT.

2. EASTERN FARE IN QUESTION ALLOWS UNLIMITED
MILEAGE OVER ANYWHERE IN EASTERN SYSTEM EXCEPT CANADA
(WHICH DISAPPROVED THE FARE) DURING A 21 DAY PERIOD
FOR 299 DOLLARS. AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE MUST BUY FARE
TOGETHER, AND ITINERARY MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST TWO
STOPOVERS IN ADDITION TO TURNAROUND POINT.

3. EASTERN INFORMS DEPARTMENT THAT IT FILED THIS FARE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 074658

WITH FRENCH ON JULY 18, 1977, FOR EFFECTIVENESS
AUGUST 27, 1977. DEPARTMENT HAS NO RECORD OF HAVING
RECEIVED NOTICE OF DISSATISFACTION FROM GOF RE THIS FARE.
OUR READING OF BILATERAL INDICATES THAT SUCH A NOTICE
IS REQUIRED BEFORE EASTERN'S FARE CAN BE DISAPPROVED
FOR TRAVEL TO THE FRENCH ANTILLES. SEPTEMBER 13, 1977
LETTER TO EASTERN IN ABSENCE OF PRIOR NOTICE
OF DISSATISFACTION NOT SUFFICIENT TO CONSTITUTE
DISAPPROVAL OF FARE. FURTHERMORE, SEPTEMBER 13
LETTER WAS SENT AFTER EFFECTIVE DATE OF EASTERN FARE,
THUS RENDERING IT EVEN MORE UNSATISFACTORY IN THIS
REGARD.

4. EASTERN HAS INDICATED IT INTENDS TO CONTINUE
SELLING UNLIMITED MILEAGE FARES FOR TRAVEL TO FRENCH
ANTILLES, BUT WILL DISCONTINUE, FOR PRESENT TIME,
SALE OF THESE TICKETS IN FRENCH ANTILLES ITSELF.
EASTERN HAS INFORMED MARTINIQUE AUTHORITIES THAT IT
IS REFERRING ENTIRE MATTER TO USG FOR APPROPRIATE
ATTENTION.

5. IN VIEW OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, USG WOULD VIEW

ANY MARTINIQUE ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST A VALID
EASTERN FARE AS A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF THE BILATERAL.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY REQUESTED RAISE THIS
MATTER IN LOW-KEY FASHION WITH FRENCH. EMBASSY SHOULD
STRESS PARTICULARLY USG CONCERNS RE MARTINIQUE
ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST EASTERN.

7. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT'S SPECULATION IS THAT
MARTINIQUE LETTER IS A FUNCTION OF LOCAL FACTORS,
INCLUDING PERHAPS AIR FRANCE REPRESENTATIONS MADE TO
MARTINIQUE AUTHORITIES. EASTERN FARE IN QUESTION
SEEMS TO BE A VERY ATTRACTIVE FARE, AND MAY BE
DIVERTING TRAFFIC FROM AIR FRANCE FLIGHTS. HOWEVER,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 074658

EASTERN STATISTICS SHOW THAT THIS FARE ALSO HAS BEEN
TRULY GENERATIVE OF NEW TRAFFIC, AND THUS IS PROBABLY
STIMULATING ADDITIONAL TOURISM TO MARTINIQUE.
MARTINIQUE ACTION AGAINST THE FARE MIGHT THEREFORE BE
ECONOMICALLY SELF-DEFEATING, AS WELL AS BE IN
VIOLATION OF THE BILATERAL. VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CUSTOMS DUTIES, AIR FARES, AVIATION REGULATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE074658
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GGGRIFFITHS:LR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780127-0950
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780331/aaaabaiw.tel
Line Count: 142
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d9b5d7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3224009
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: EASTERN AIRLINES FARES PROBLEM WITH FRENCH ANTILLES
TAGS: EAIR, FR, EASTERN AIRLINES
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d9b5d7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014